

AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 3-10, with the following amended paragraphs:

This application is a ~~continuing application which claims priority~~ continuation of United States Patent Application Serial No.09/169,079 filed October 9, 1998, incorporated herein by reference.; ~~and from~~

This application also incorporates by reference, in their entireties, United States Patent Application Serial No. 08/901,710, filed July 28, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,107,046; and from U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/340,011, filed November 14, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,776,755; and from United States Patent Application Serial No. 08/257,754, filed June 9, 1994, now abandoned; the latter two of which in turn are continuations in part of and United States Patent Application Serial No. 07/959,951, filed on October 9, 1992, now abandoned. All of these applications are incorporated herein by reference, in their entireties.

Please replace the paragraph at page 33, lines 10-17, with the following amended paragraph:

To further understand the role of *Flt4* during development, partial cDNAs for mouse *Flt4* were cloned. Using these probes in *in situ* hybridization, *Flt4* mRNA expression during mouse development was analyzed. It was determined that *Flt4* is expressed during vasculogenesis and angiogenesis of the lymphatic system. The relevance of these ~~findings~~ findings was also confirmed in normal and pathological human adult tissues, as *Flt4* was found in lymphatic endothelial cells of human adult tissues both in normal and pathological conditions, as well as in some high endothelial venules (HEVs).